

#### **HISTORY**

- 2008 Video Lottery Terminal legislation included a 1.5 percent set-aside of revenue for loans for small, minority, veteran, and women-owned businesses in Maryland
- The Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development manages revolving loan fund for the state
- AAEDC approved in April, 2013, to be a fund manager
- The VOLT Fund = AAEDC's program
- Cecil County → Harford County → Anne Arundel County

### REQUIREMENTS

**TARGETED AREAS**: 50% of the fund to small businesses located within a 10-mile radius of Maryland's four casinos:

- Casino at Rocky Gap (Allegany County)
- Maryland Live! (Anne Arundel)
- ➤ Hollywood Casino Perryville (Cecil County)
- > Casino at Ocean Downs outside of Ocean City (Worcester County)

NON-TARGETED AREAS: Remaining funds for loans to small, minority, veteran, and women-owned businesses located in other areas of the state

AAEDC planned allocation:

- >70% conventional small business
- ≥30% early-stage technology companies

#### LOANS TO SMALL BUSINESS

- Loan amounts from \$25,000 \$500,000
- Priced at below current market interest rates (2%–5%)
- Eligible purposes:
  - >business or commercial real estate acquisition
  - >building improvements
  - > equipment/vehicle purchase
  - >leasehold improvements
  - ➤business start-up costs
  - >working capital
- Start-ups and existing businesses eligible

### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

- Use of standard underwriting practices
  - > Repayment capacity
  - > Financial strength of the company/guarantors
  - > Industry and management experience
  - Collateral protection
- A noticeable benefit of the ability to think outside the traditional lending box
- Total processing time is 45–90 days
- 3 years of financial statements, tax returns on the company and guarantors, and a personal financial statement
- Post-closing servicing administered by AAEDC staff:
  - > Loan monitoring, billing, and servicing

### LOAN REQUIREMENTS

- > Personal credit score (640 or above)
- Historical/projected Debt Service Coverage Ratio (DSCR) multiplier of 1.00x
- > Collateral required when available
- > All owners over 20% stake must personally guarantee the loan
- ➤ Life insurance on owner/guarantor where no valid succession plan is in place

#### In addition, for start-up businesses:

- ➤ Minimum equity injection of 10%
- > Business plan required
- Management and industry experience

# LOANS TO TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES

- Promising early stage technology companies
- Loan amounts range from \$100,000 to \$250,000
- Long term debt with payment deferred to future liquidity event
- Liquidity event is defined as an IPO, future investment of at least 4 times the amount of the original loan, or sale of the company
- Typical investor due diligence and evaluation process

# ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES

- Loans are evaluated by a 5 person investment committee
- Review of the following when evaluating these applications:
  - > Strong management team
  - > Proof of concept (Does the technology work and is there a market?)
  - Defendable intellectual property with clear ownership or licensing arrangement?
  - ➤ Does the borrower have the ability to get follow-up funding in 24-60 months?

# EXCLUDED TRANSACTIONS & INDUSTRIES

- Loans to effect ownership change that will not benefit the business
- Loans for the reimbursement of funds owed to an owner or reimbursement of equity injection
- Loans for repayment of delinquent state or federal taxes
- Non-owner occupied real estate
- Firms involved in gambling activities

# EXCLUDED TRANSACTIONS & INDUSTRIES

- Adult bookstores/entertainment facilities
- Gun shops
- Liquor stores
- Pawn shops
- Tanning salons
- Tattoo parlors
- Check-cashing services

#### RESULTS

- > Started taking applications May 1, 2013
- > Approved 21 loans in the amount \$3,033,750
- > 65.63% are either a woman, minority, or veteran-owned business

## Questions?

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**Energizing Maryland's Small Businesses**